

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECTION INFORMATION

REPORT

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REFERENCES

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1. Priority Research in Progress at East German Universities 1953

The following research tasks which are being carried out in 1953 in Institutes of the DDR Universities and the Technical University, Dresden, are graded as especially important. They are referred to as "Dringlichkeits-Themen" or "D-Themen." They are administered separately from the other research tasks by the State Secretariat for Higher Education. Progress reports have to be submitted quarterly by the scientists responsible, as compared with annually for ordinary research. For an explanation of the following table, see note at end of report.

a. Berlin University

F3-63 - Chemisches Institut - Inorganic Polymers (Anorganische Polymere)
70 - F2-39

F3-81 - Phys. Institut - Resistance to high tensile speeds (Festigkeit bei hohen Zerreißgeschwindigkeiten) 60 - F2-29

F3-92 = Phys. Chem. Institut - Mixed oxide semi-conductors (Mischoxydhalf-
leiter)) 55 - F2-09

F3-140 - Inst. f. Veterinaer-Polizei - Heart-failure in pigs (Herztod der Schweine) 48 - F2-6120

F3-141 - Inst. f. Veterinaer-Polizei - Brucellosis prevention (Bruzellose-bekaempfung) 25 - ...

F3-185 - Inst. f. exper. Endokrinologie - Testing of Hormones (Hormone-
stung) 40 - F2-885

F3-325 - Inst. f. Anorgan. Chemie - Fluorine compounds (Fluorverbindungen)
12 - ...

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b. Greifswald University

F3-01 - Inst. f. organ. Chemie - Rare-earth elements (Seltene Erden)
50 - F2-06

c. Leipzig University

F3-19 - Inst. f. anorgan. Chemie - Rare-earth elements (Seltene Erden)
50 - F2-161

F3-20 - Inst. f. organ. Chemie - Dicarboxylic acids (Dikarbonsäuren)
8 - F2-842

F3-23 - Phys. Chem. Institut - Humus research (Humusforschung) 80 -
F2-28

F3-46 - Inst. f. Acker-und Pflanzenbau -(Institute of Agriculture and
Horticulture) - Practical application of the 'Anweilsmethode'
(Uebertragung der Anweilsmethode in die Praxis) 100 - F2-81

F3-186 - Kinderklinik - Prevention of mortality among premature births
(Bekaempfung der Fruehgeburtensterblichkeit) 6 - F2-801

d. Halle University

F3-40 - Inst. f. Futterbau und Kulturtechnik -(Institute of Fodder and
Soil Cultivation) - Growing of fodder plants on stubble soil
(Futterbau auf Wischeboden) 40 - F2-173

e. Jena University

F3-20 - Forschungsinstitut fuer magn. Werkstoffe - Magnetic properties of
silicised sheet metal (Magnetische Eigenschaften in Abhaengigkeit
von der Zusammensetzung bei silizierten Blechen) 25 - F2-42

F3-49 - Hygienisches Inst. - Virus research (Firusforschung) 10 - F2-75

F3-50 - Mediz. Poliklinik - Investigations on the Pavlov Theory (Unter-
suchungen zur Pawlowschen Theorie) 20 - F2-67

F3-51 - Patholog. Inst. - Spinal infantile paralysis (Spinale Kinderlaeh-
mung) 40 - F2-18

F3-67 - Univ. Lehrgut Dornburg (Dornburg Experiment Station) - Seed
grafting in corn (Keimpfropfung bei Getreide) 80 - F2-03

F3-68 - Univ. Lehrgut Dornburg - Influence on the fat and albumen content
in oily fruits (Beeinflussung des Fett/Eiweiss-Verhaeltnisses bei
Oelfruechten) 17 - F2-04

F3-91 - Vet. Untersuchungsanstalt (Veterinary Experiment Station) - Preven-
tion of tuberculosis in cattle (Rindertuberkulosebekaempfung)
90 - ...

f. THS Dresden

F3-01 - Inst. f. angewandte Mathematik - Calculating machine (Rechenautomat)
100 - F2-51

F3-09 - Inst. f. anorg. u. organ. Chemie - 'Raman' spectroscopy (Raman-
spektroskopie) 25 - F2-69

F3-53 - Inst. f. Werkstoffkunde (Institute of Materials Analysis) - Increase
in quality of silicised plate (Qualitaetssteigerung silizierter
Bleche) 15 - F2-04

F3-61 - Inst. f. Betriebswissenschaften (Institute of Industrial Sciences) -
High-speed cutting (Schnellzerspannung) 80 - F2-16

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F3-62 - ditto - Hot cutting (Warmzerspanung) 70 - F2-20

F3-71 - ditto - Ceramic cutting tools (Keramische Schneidwerkzeuge) 100 - ...

F3-78 - Inst. f. Starkstromtechnik (Heavy electric current) - Power grid (Netzmodell) 60 - F2-39

2. Progress in University Research in the First Half of 1953

The following analysis of progress achieved in research and development work in the Institutes of the Universities and the Technical University, Dresden, in the half-year to 30 June 1953 was prepared in September in the State Secretariat for submission to the Central Office for Research and Technics (ZAFT):

a. State of the research and development work and its fulfillment

- (1) Eight relatively unimportant tasks were due to be completed in the first half-year. Five of these were not completed. However, those completed included the most important of the eight, viz.: "Vorrats-fm und Ernte-fm". Four other tasks were completed ahead of schedule.
- (2) The current priority tasks (D-Themen) were given, by and large, the planned priority so that it is probable that they will be completed on time. The same can be said of the other more important tasks of the 1953 Research Plan. However, a number of difficulties which will result in delay have been experienced in connection with some tasks. In particular, shortages of apparatus and raw materials, the departure of scientists and the tardiness in approving the research plan have caused delays. The First Supplement to the Research Plan could not be passed to the Institutes until the second half-year, and its budgeting could not be completed until the end of August.
- (3) The following more important tasks were finished:
 - 300101 - F3-218 "Vorrats-fm und Ernte-fm"
 - 300104 - F3-169 Vitamin C in tuberculosis of the skin
 - 300104 - F3-109 Periodical inflammation of the eye in horses
 - 300106 - F3-104 Mechanism for the discharge of geiger counters
- (4) The scientific and economic significance of the results of research during the first half-year can only be estimated after the detailed final reports have been evaluated.
- (5) The following tasks had to be broken off because the scientists responsible dropped out:
 - 300102 - F3-34 Surface tension
 - 300104 - F3-180 Mechanics of articulation (Gelenkmechanik)
- (6) The following tasks are being carried out in a slightly altered form:
 - 300106 - F3-37 Inorganic crystals
 - 300106 - F3-38 Fused electrolytes
 - 300106 - F3-39 Special glasses
- (7) Seventeen tasks were not started at all, partly because of personnel difficulties and partly because equipment was not delivered in time. The reasons still have to be studied in detail.
- (8) The First Supplement was not received until 30 June, so that not one of the tasks could be started in the first half-year.

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b. Financial fulfillment

It is not possible to give a satisfactory analysis of the monies devoted entirely to research, because of the peculiar organization of the university institutes, which are engaged in teaching as well as in scientific research. The following figures concerning the utilization of money made available from the Central Fund "Research and Development" can, however, be given:

1952 - Planned figure 5,105,000 DM. Used by 30 June -
1,699,000 DM (=33%)

1953 - Planned figure 7,337,000 DM. Used by 30 June -
3,228,000 DM (=44%)

No figures are available for the corresponding figures for 1951, but we estimate that about 30% of the planned sum was used by 30 June.

c. Appreciation of the work of the Institutes

The work of the research and development Institutes was varied in quality, but showed in general an appreciable improvement over that of the year 1952. Some Institutes, especially the biological Institutes in Rostock and Greifswald and the physics Institute in Halle are severely handicapped by shortage of accommodation. This difficulty could be relieved in other cases. The departure of scientists affected scientific work. The nationalized firms very often do not keep to their delivery dates. The present order compelling the purchase of smaller items through the German Trading Centers (DHZ), and forbidding the use of the Trading Organization (HO), has been a serious hindrance. Similarly, the difficulty in satisfying the demands for [] apparatus has hindered work.

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d. Appreciation of the work of the State Secretariat and ZAFT

- (1) The work of the Department for Research of the State Secretariat for Higher Education was seriously affected by shortage of staff. The Directorates for Research in general fulfilled their duties satisfactorily, but overloading of the Directors with teaching and other organizational duties resulted in many cases in some neglect of their duties of scientific supervision.
- (2) Certain administrative aspects of the processing of the research proposals by ZAFT led to difficulties. For instance, unscientific putting forward of the completion dates of biological and agricultural tasks caused considerable annoyance to the professors concerned. In addition, the officials of ZAFT often made statements which would not have been made, had they previously consulted the State Secretariat. The morale of the heads of institutes was particularly seriously affected by the delay in issuing the First Supplement until the end of June, and the delay until 22 August in the release by the Ministry for Finance of the money required to finance it.

NOTE: The following explanation of the first item of paragraph 2 will clarify the layout of the report:

F3-63 = 1953 serial number of the research tasks on the list for the University concerned.

Chemisches Institut = Institute carrying out the research.

Inorganic, etc., = short title (Kennwort) of the research.

70 = 70,000 DM (East) = money allotted for the research in 1953.

F2-39 = 1952 serial number of the research, which was brought forward from that year.

[] Comment: Reserve-"fm" and Harvest-"fm".

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